## Montana **Behavioral** Initiative

## Montana Big Ideas

For School wide Positive Behavior Interventions and Support Systems

**GOT OPPORTUNITY?** 

Volume 2, Issue 3

March 2011

## RESOURCES TO LOOK AT

## **Got Opportunity?**

Russell J. Quaglia, Kristine M. Fox and Michael J. Corso

A survey reveals that students experience three gaps: the expectations gap, the relationships gap, and the participation gap.

As educators, we see it every day: Some students succeed with our help, others succeed in spite of us, and some fail despite our best efforts. Teachers want to do everything in their power to offer every student the opportunity for academic success. But we really know little about what school conditions spell opportunity from the students' perspective. What characteristics of school climate and teaching make students feel empowered to achieve?

To find out, the Aspirations Research Center at the Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations (QISA) listened to students in 627 schools across the United States. Between 2006 and 2010, QISA surveyed 456,021 students in grades 6-12 through our My Voice survey. The results send a clear signal that both student achievement and student opportunity are connected to the kinds of expectations, relationships, and chances for participation that students perceive they have in school. We've come to think of the "opportunity gap" some students face as having three elements: the expectations gap, the relationships gap, and the participation gap.

http://www.ascd.org/publications/educational-leadership/nov10/vol68/num03/Got-Opportunity%C2%A2.aspx

### 10 Practices to Close the Gaps

- Show students you believe they can be successful by using a "here's how to do better next time" approach when you need to correct work. Let students know what they're doing well.
- Share with each student individually what you expect from him or her.
- Hold students accountable for their actions.
- Encourage students to share success stories with one another.
- Follow up on absent students. Let them know it's because you care about them, not just to chase down missing work.
- Invite students to brown-bag lunches in your room. Promising homemade cookies helps!
- Survey students about their personal, social, and academic goals at the beginning of each term.
- Involve all students in school leadership initiatives by using student surveys and fostering dialogue about important issues. Show you value students' opinions.
- ♦ Create a classroom atmosphere that welcomes participation. Ask open-ended questions and set a "There are no stupid questions" policy.
- Develop after-school opportunities focused on the interests of students who shun traditional activities.

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Check out the MBI site

http://www.gisa.org/

Quaglia Institute for Student Aspirations

A network for MBI coaches and Montana educators working with the Quaglia Institute

Student Aspirations: the ability to dream and set goals for the future, while being inspired in the present to reach those dreams.

Read this to see how amazing MBI is in our

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ALL children deserve the opportunity to grow up in schools and communities that support them in making healthy choices

## In The Next Issue

- Summer Institute
- How to Use My Voice Survey Results





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### SUMMER INSTITUTE Session 1 (Fall) Session 2 (Winter) Session 3 (Fall) MBI Philosophy Review Components Review Components Team Process and Problem-Solving Problem-Solving JUNE 20-24 MSU-BOZEMAN Systems Responsibilities Implementation Issues Implementation Issues: SET, SAS, TIC Team Initiated Problem Faculty Commitment http://www.montana.edu/cs/conferences/mbi/ **Cultural Responsiveness** Student Aspirations Solving-TIPS Getting Everybody on Resources for Teams Board Quicksters 3-5 Expectations Teaching the Universals MBI and Bully Have a place designated as the Vacation spot Universal Teaching and Developing Lesson Prevention in the classroom. When students are having a Matrix Plans Family and Community difficult time behaviorally, emotionally, or Reinforcement Systems Common areas Involvement socially, they go on vacation for a few minutes Crisis Planning Consequence Systems Active Supervision to cool down. Introduce this spot and demon-Promoting Universals QISA Teaching and Student Aspirations Team strate how to use it by showing kids different 8 Conditions Admin, Guidebooks (MBI Youth Day) ways to calm down. Make it comfortable and decorate it as if the child were on vacation. Implementation Data Using Implementation Data Problem-Solving This helps children deal with their upsets in a more positive way and offers them a safe TIC System Level Outcome Data Outcome Data 5A5 Reviewing your ODRs place to go to. ODRs. SWIS MBI Blueprint Big 5 Generator Big 5 Generator COOL TOOLS FOR MONTANA My Voice Survey SSARB, MV Reports, SWIS. SCHOOLS IN ALL STAGES OF THE Focus Groups **SSARB**

# plar schools and provided to help schools in all stages of the MBI proceess.

MBI PROCESS

Provides links to tools used by exem-

http://opi.mt.gov/Programs/SchoolPrograms/MBI/ index.html#gpm1\_6

## **Consultant's Corner**

**Keith Hoyer** has taught high school students about business for 17 years. He has a bachelor's degree in Business Education from the University of Montana-Western and a Master's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of Montana. Keith is lucky enough to live in Belt with his beautiful wife Heather and their two extraordinary daughters. He is an MBI consultant/presenter and co-chairs the MBI program in the Belt School District. He is the high school DECA/Yearbook/Media/Honor Society/Youth Leadership/Freshman class Advisor. Keith has taken students to the International DECA competition eight consecutive years placing one team in the top 10 in the world and having over 20 teams place in the top 10 percent of the world. Keith is most proud that with the help of fellow MBI Consultant JJ Drummond, they were able to successfully start a Youth Leadership group that has prospered at Belt School. Students are given an opportunity to succeed and with the help of Keith and II they have passed a law, started a wellness center and have increased awareness of social issues affecting the school, community and state. Keith is fond of saying "Every day is a holiday" and truly believes it when working with MBI and students.

